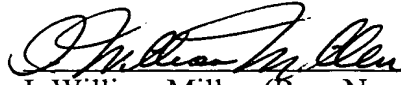


REMARKS

The principle purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiply dependent claims and the fee associated therewith, Applicants reserving the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,

  
I. William Millen (Reg. No. 19,544)  
Attorney for Applicants

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.  
Arlington Courthouse Plaza I  
2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1400  
Arlington, VA 22201  
(703) 812-5325  
Internet address: millen@mwzb.com

**Filed: September 21, 1999**

IWM(pdr)K:\PAT\atocm\156\PA.wpd

09400994 092199

A